



The **BANDSPREAD**

April 2021



OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE WABASH VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION, INC.

April 2021 WVARA Meeting

Friday, April 2nd at 7:00pm EDT

Location: Berean Baptist Church Annex
6770 N. Clinton St.
Terre Haute, IN

Note: This will be a hybrid meeting -- both in-person & via Zoom.

The Zoom meeting ID is: **891 9985 5398**. If you do not have the Zoom app, you can join the meeting using the following link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89199855398>

Program: AMSAT

From the President,

Golf Romeo Echo Echo Tango India November Golf Sierra,

Thanks to everyone who made the Spring Hamfest a great success. I'm reluctant to mention anyone by name out of concern for leaving out anyone who pitched in. We were able to have access to the facility Friday night. This allowed us to get tables set up and ready to go. It certainly made Saturday morning much easier. An all-around great day.

I'm excited about the program for this month's WVARA meeting. Matt Tinker (AA9XA) has secured Paul Stoetzer (N8HM) for a presentation on "Amateur Radio in Space." Paul is the Executive Vice President for AMSAT. He will be presenting from Washington D.C. via Zoom. On a scale of 1 to 10 my knowledge of this subject is about -1. My personal plan is to do a little research on the subject from their website (amsat.org) prior to our meeting.

Be sure to, also, calendar joining with other club members for our May activities of the Indiana QSO Party and the local Triathlon.

73 – LeRoy, AC9NF

WVARA Meeting, March 5, 2021
Pictures Courtesy Gary K9ERE



WVARA 2021 Hamfest
Pictures Courtesy Gary K9ERE





**Wabash Valley Amateur Radio Association
Club Meeting, March 5, 2021**

Meeting was called to order by LeRoy AC9NF at 7:05 p.m.

Introductions/New Members: Matt AA9XA - None at this time.

LeRoy reported that Ryan KE9HZ was SK as of 2/4/21.

Secretary Report: Andy AC9SW - Report read and approved.

Treasurers Report: Ray K9DUR - are on the Club website.

Education & VE Report: Jerry W9GWL - The Extra class in going well with 5 students. VE testing will be held at the end of the class. There will be a VE session in March 2021.

Vigo County ARES: Dave K9DWO - Sunday at 8:30 p.m. will be the next net. Possible project this spring with other counties.

Owen County Forest Run Help: Jim K9EOH asked for help with the event. We have in the past helped with the communications. If you are interested in helping, please contact Jim at jm@k9eoh.com before 3/27/2021.

2021 Spring Hamfest: Chuck W9COD reported there was a lot of activity and our attendance should be very good. It was also decided not to serve doughnuts, just coffee and water for the Hamfest.

Program: The program discussed a number of topics identified by the Board at their last meeting regarding goals for 2021 and activities. Items included hands-on workshops, use of the communications trailer, Indiana QSO party club participation, Fox Hunts, CW Class, Club Welcome Packet, helping hams get antennas in the air.

With no other business the meeting was adjourned at 8:12 p.m. Total attendance was 21 both zoom and in person.

April Program will be by Paul N8HM from AMSAT .

Next Meeting April 2, 2021

Wabash Valley Amateur Radio Association, Inc
2021 Spring Hamfest Financial Report

Income & Expenses
Hamfest

INCOME

Ticket Sales	\$1,414.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$1,414.00

EXPENSES

Fairgrounds Rental	\$300.00
Fairgrounds Booking Fee	\$10.00
Supplies	\$40.86
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$350.86

PROFIT/LOSS **\$1,063.14**

OVERALL PROFIT/LOSS **\$1,104.20**

Income & Expenses
Food Sales

INCOME

Food Sales	\$50.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$50.00

EXPENSES

Food	\$8.94
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TOTAL EXPENSES **\$8.94**

PROFIT/LOSS **\$41.06**

WVARA Board Meeting

2021-03-11 Minutes

Location: via Zoom

Time: 7:30 p.m. (Indiana Time)

In Attendance:

Y	President – LeRoy Sedgwick, AC9NF	David Brown, KD9RHM
Y	Vice-President – Matt Tinker, AA9XA	Michael Morrison, K9YPM
N	Secretary – Andy Whitt, AC9SW	Gary Wheeler, K9ERE
Y	Treasurer – Ray Andrews, K9DUR	Kevin Berlen, K9HX
Y	Trustee – Jerry Cockrell, W9GWC	
Y	Past President – Joe Cloutier, KC9JAC	
Y	Past President – Steve Farrington, K9TA	

Meeting called to order at 7:30 p.m. Indiana Time

Minutes of the previous Board Meeting were presented by Andy (AC9SW) -- Approved

Interim Treasurer's Report presented by Ray (K9DUR) -- Approved

Reports

New Members/Induction (Matt, AA9XA) – Barry Monnett (WA9ZWA)

Education Committee (Ray, K9DUR) – The Amateur Extra Class has 5 students (3 local/2 from Lafayette area). License testing will follow the completion of the class on April 20th.

VE Committee (Jerry, W9GWC) – No testing in March. Testing will resume at the Vigo YMCA April 10.

Background Checks (Matt, AA9XA/Jerry, W9GWC) – There are still a few background checks left to complete. They are coming back within a few days of being submitted.

Unfinished Business

Spring Hamfest (Andy, AC9SW) – The Spring Hamfest planning is on schedule. We will only be selling coffee and water in the food area. The front door, PA system setup, raffle cage, face mask personnel are set. Andy (AC9SW) will get the coffee supplies and door code. A larger than normal crowd is expected.

New Ham Handout – Mike (K9YPM) has prepared approximately 25 handout kits for new hams. We need to have these available at testing sessions and club meetings.

Club Property – Signage/Dumping of Topsoil – We need to check the status of this with Chuck (W9COD) following the Spring Hamfest.

New Business

None

Comments/Questions

Ray (K9DUR) – License fee may go into effect sometime in June.

Jerry (W9GWC) – Still considering a date for the New Ham Camp. Probably in late Summer or early Fall.

Gary (K9ERE) – The Cabin Fever Net will now be Monday through Thursday. Also, the Triathlon is on our May calendar of activities.

Kevin (K9HX) – Asked about the status of the Brentlinger Award/Dinner. LeRoy (AC9NF) acknowledged the “ball was dropped.” The committee will be contacted to proceed.

Matt (AA9XA) – The CW class is planned to resume in the Fall.

Meeting Adjourned

Next Meeting Date/Location – Thursday, April 8, 2021; 7:30 p.m.; via Zoom

Enjoy this front page from the December 2008 Bandspread

REGULAR EVENTS

Friday
Dec. 5 General Meeting: 7:00 P.M., 1st Friday of Mo.
1715 S. 8th St., just east of the main Glas-Col
building, Talk-in - 146.685 RPT; PL 151.4
The Board meeting immediately follows the
General meeting. Visitors are welcome.

Every
Thursday The Club Station is open, 7:00 - 9:00 P.M.,
Downstairs, Red Cross Bldg., 700 S. 3rd.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Evansville Hamfest, 8 A.M. to 1 P.M.
Vanderburgh Co. 4-H Fairgrounds, Saturday, Nov. 29
Talk-In 145.150- ,146.925- & 443.925+ (all 107.2 tone)

WVARA Xmas Party (see article, p. 2) Dec. 13

Brentlinger Award deadline (see article, p. 2) Jan. 15



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DECEMBER 2008



SKYWARN/ARES HAS A PARTY!

Months of prayers and planning came together on October 25th, at the WMGI tower site, just west of West Terre Haute. This tower site is home to the 145.230 W9SKI, Skywarn repeater. This would be the day when we would hopefully improve the performance of the repeater.

Our problems began somewhere around 18 months ago, when we noticed that the repeater's range was down some. Kevin, K9HX, took a look and told us that it was indeed down some, maybe as much as 40 percent. For some reason there was a great deal of de-sense in either the antenna or hardware. The problem was compounded on February 5th of this year, when a strong winter storm with winds measured at 82 miles per hour on the ground, made matters worse by creating an intermittent problem, where signals at times would decrease even more.

By August, when the storms were pretty much at a minimum, we knew that if we were going to change antennas this year we were going to need to do something pretty quickly.

It was already too late in the year to plan a fund raiser to get the \$600 we would need to buy the new Decibel Products DB-224 to replace the old antenna currently on the tower. But then some folks who understood Skywarn's importance stepped up to provide the money that was needed. Soon the Antenna was ordered and within a few days it had arrived.

Now came the hard part - the actual antenna replacement. But it all started to come together pretty easily.

First Bob Anderson, WB9RRX, agreed to make the climb and Jerry Boling, W9TWR, agreed to assist Bob. Kevin and

I were already on board so then the plan began come together.

We all had breakfast together at 8 A.M. on Saturday morning, October 25th, because all good activities start and end with food. Afterward we went to the tower site and got to work.



In addition to the aforementioned, others who showed up to help in one way or another were:

- Dave, WT9I Dan, W9OOT
- Ken, W9KLM Brad, KC9GUR
- Ben, KC9FPO Gene, N9NJ
- Gary, K9ERE (who took staff photos)

Two old antennas were removed and the new antenna was placed at some- where above 400 feet. Bob and Jerry were on the tower in the wind for about 6 hours and kept us all on the ground very busy. In just over 6 hours, the new antenna was up, the climbers were down, tools were put away and we were out of there for, you guessed it, more food.

I want to thank those of you who gave of your money and your time. Because you cared enough to do what you could do, lives will be saved and tell me, how can you put a price on that?

Keith Reedy, WA9DRO
Illiana Skywarn Coordinator

For more photos, see pp. 4 & 5

**2009 PROPOSED
WVARA OFFICER SLATE**

- For President:** Gary Adams, W9EEU
- For Vice Pres:** Ray Andrews, K9DUR
- For Treasurer:** Nick Vinardi, N9WG
- For Secretary:** Bette Young, KC9GWT
- For Trustee:** Kevin Berlen, K9HX

Because our bylaws require a written ballot, if you decide you are willing to run for a position prior to election night, please let us know so that we can add you to the ballot.

And, of course, nominations from the floor will be accepted on election night itself.

- David L. Pifer - N9YNF n9ymf@arrl.net

This Month's Program

The highlight of the December meeting will be the annual
CLUB ELECTION!

Local Nets

Tuesday Evening Parke Co. Em. Svs. Net	8:00 P.M. ET 146.745/R
Wednesday Evening Clark Co. ARES Net	9:00 P.M. CT 146.520/S
Thursday Evening CAARLA Net	9:00 P.M. ET 146.685/R
Sunday Morning Vigo Co. ARES NET	8:20 A.M. ET 146.685/R
Sunday Evening WVARA Net	9:00 P.M. ET 146.685/R*

* First Sunday of the month is Simplex night. The WVARA Net meets that night on 146.595/S



Dear Dr. Elmer

Dr. Elmer,

Q. When I am talking to someone through the Club repeater, they frequently do not hear the first few words I say. This doesn't seem to happen when we are using simplex instead of the repeater. What is going on?

A. The repeater uses a control circuit to connect the receiver and transmitter, and perform other tasks, including checking the received signal for proper PL tone being sent by the transmitting station. Although it is very brief, a moment or two is required for this task to be completed. During this brief time when the repeater system is deciding whether or not to retransmit the signal it is hearing, it isn't retransmitting your audio. When stations are operating on simplex this momentary delay does not occur, because neither station is using the repeater. The solution to this problem is simple, just pause for a moment after keying the transmitter before you start talking. This will allow the control circuits inside the repeater to do their jobs.

Courtesy of Dave, N9FMD

Please complete the following information to update the Club's records and allow more notifications and communications, and to determine new activities for 2021 and beyond.

Name _____ Call _____

License Class _____ Years Licensed _____ QCWA Member _____

(Yes or No)

Address: _____

City: _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Telephone No. _____

Cell Phone No.: _____

E-Mail: _____

WVARA Member in 2020 Yes _____ No _____

ARRL Member in 2020 Yes _____ No _____

Do you belong to any other ARRL or Amateur Radio groups?

What programs and activities would you like to see in 2021?

What would you think of having fund raising campaign for the Club, or would you just like to donate \$25.00 directly to the club? What do you think would be good fundraisers for the Club?

THE BANDSPREAD is the official publication of the Wabash Valley Amateur Radio Association, Inc. Organized in 1927 as a nonprofit public service organization it was affiliated with the ARRL on April 5 1934.

Board of Directors:

President: Leroy Sedgwick-AC9NF
Vice-President: Matt Tinker – AA9XA
Secretary: Andy Whitt – AC9SW
Treasurer: Ray Andrews - K9DUR
Trustee: Jerry Cockrell - W9GWC
Past President: Joe Cloutier – KC9JAC
Past President: Steve Farrington – K9TA

Publications:

Bandspread Editor: Jerry Cockrell – W9GWC
Bandspread Facilitator: Dave Littlejohn - N9FMD

Submissions: e-mail the editor at

bandspread@w9uuu.org or mail to
P.O Box 10081, Terre Haute, IN 47808-0081

Webmaster: Ray Andrews - K9DUR

Contact the webmaster at webmaster@w9uuu.org to join our list server or if you have a problem receiving the eBandspread. Visit us on the web at www.W9UUU.org.

Sunday Night Net Manager: John VanSandt - N9YRX

Dues

2021-2022

\$30.00

Please pay now

WABASH VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Please complete this form and include it with your dues. You may return this application in person or mail to:

WABASH VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION, INC.
P.O. BOX 10081
TERRE HAUTE, IN 47801

Name: _____ Call: _____ License Class _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone () _____ - _____ E-mail address _____

Date of Birth (Mo/Dy/Yr) ____/____/____ Year first licensed _____ Year of last WVARA membership _____

New Member? [] ARRL member? [] ARES member? [] QCWA member? [] RACES member? []

This newsletter will come to you by e-mail in .pdf format unless you specifically request a paper copy below. We encourage you to choose the electronic version because: 1. It costs the Club less to produce and deliver it; and 2. In the electronic version, the pictures are in color and it arrives earlier! Of course, you can still make a paper copy of it on your printer, if you wish.

If you are applying for a family membership please list below the licensed family members [living at home] that you wish to include.

Name: _____ Call: _____ License Class _____

ARRL? []

Name: _____ Call: _____ License Class _____

ARRL? []

Please add \$7 per family member above to the Single rate below. To include ARRL membership, see a current QST for the amount.

Dues options: Single (\$30) Family (Single + \$7 per family member. Add ARRL membership Total pmt. \$ _____

Note: 1. Payments made Sept. - Dec. apply to membership for the following year. ARRL also has a family membership program as well. See QST.

*Club gets a rebate from the ARRL!

NOTICE: All members must submit to a criminal background check as a condition of membership.

Bulletin Board

WVARA VE Testing

(Walk-ins Welcome)

Terre Haute, Indiana

2nd Saturday of every month (except March)

9:30 A.M., Indiana time

Vigo County YMCA, 951 Dresser Drive, Terre Haute, IN (South end of Fairbanks Park)

For further info contact:

Ray Andrews, K9DUR: 812-236-6522

Terre Haute Radio Club

VE Testing

(Walk-ins Welcome)

Terre Haute, Indiana

2nd Thursday of every month

7:00 P.M., Indiana time

Storage Solutions South

5457 South State Road 63

(just south of the prison)

For further info contact Ginger Monastyrski, WB9ZHC at 812-243-9052 or WB9ZHC@yahoo.com